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Exploring Heating Options is a Summer Job

Augusta, Maine – The Governor's Energy Office is conducting a spring/summer heating fuel price survey. On Monday, April 30, 2012, the current statewide average cash price for No. 2 heating oil is **\$3.77 per gallon**, an eight cent reduction since March 26.

"Mainers should not wait until next winter to explore alternative heating options for their homes and businesses," said Energy Office Director Ken Fletcher. "High fuel prices, a cold winter or a disruptive geopolitical incident in the Middle East will hit home and business owners' wallets. A combination of these factors could be devastating. Good planning and exploration of weatherization, heating systems and fuels this summer can make a big difference in financial, energy and comfort conditions this winter. For example, Efficiency Maine is offering a new PowerSaver loan program with a 4.99 percent rate for improvements that reduce energy use and offset the cost through energy savings. The program is available to homeowners in Maine who meet certain credit requirements." The Governor's Energy Office has a calculator on its web site that allows consumers to estimate home heating costs and price impacts of various energy sources, including propane, wood pellets and natural gas. Please visit http://www.maine.gov/oeis/docs/heatcalculatorMEv3_1.xls.

As of April 30, 2012

Heating Oil	Statewide	Southwest	Central	Eastern	Western	Northern
Average	3.77	3.68	3.85	3.80	3.72	3.87
High	4.07	3.85	4.07	3.90	3.80	3.90
Low	3.44	3.44	3.65	3.70	3.45	3.80
Kerosene	4.17	4.10	4.24	4.19	4.12	4.27
Propane	3.09					

It is important to note that the price for heating oil is a statewide average and that prices in a given geographic region of the state may be considerably higher or lower than the statewide average. Within the Energy Office sample, the lowest actual heating oil price of \$3.44 per gallon can be found in the Southwest region. The highest price of \$4.07 per gallon was found in the Central region. The statewide kerosene price average is \$4.17 per gallon at this time. The statewide average for propane ***based on a use of 925 gallons a year*** is \$3.09 per gallon. The table above provides current Maine cash prices in dollars rounded to the nearest penny. On April 30, the price of WTI crude oil, a major driver of refined petroleum product prices, including heating oil, was at \$104.27 per barrel. Efficiency Maine links Maine homeowners and businesses with qualified, certified contractors who provide access to energy improvement options. For program details call 866-376-2463 or visit www.efficiencymaine.com.